Department Plan - Foreign Languages

Mission:
To offer transfer requirement courses for institutions of higher learning similar to the UC and CSU systems in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish and Vietnamese.
To teach students to communicate effectively in a foreign language, stressing the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.
To develop an appreciation and understanding of cultural heritage.
To promote international understanding and exchange, supported by an extensive study abroad program.
To provide a pool of students to fill positions in the community which require competency in a foreign language and understanding of other world cultures.

Description:
The Department is currently teaching seven languages. Those languages are Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. As with the rest of the College, the enrollment has decreased in most of the languages that we offer, some extremely (Vietnamese went from 59 to 18 students.) The only language that has increased is German (162 to 189 students.)

Summary of Access (see Help for details):
The Department has revamped its offerings in order to serve our students better. One example is the increase in the offerings of Span.9 and 10 (Span. for Spanish Speakers) courses. Span. and Fren. 25 are being offered again more frequently.

Summary of Efficiency (see Help for details):
Although the enrollment rate has decreased in the department, The success and retention rates have maintained steady.

Summary of Effectiveness (see Help for details):
The GPA of our students has remained relatively stable.

Summary of Equity (see Help for details):
New courses are being developed and implemented to better serve the make-up of our community.

Additional Analyses (Optional):
The Department has granted double the number of AA degrees and certificates as compared to the year 2010 - 2011. We have revamped and streamlined our requirements for the certificate of achievement so that more of our students apply for them by eliminating the requirement of an exit interview since this requirement proved redundant and proved intimidating for the students, resulting in many not applying for the AA or the Certificate of Competency. In addition, we have created new courses: Spanish 9 and 10 Honors, Khmer 9 and 10 (Khmer for Speakers), and French and Italian 1C and 2C (French/Italian for the Spanish Speakers.) These last six courses are slated to be offered starting in the Fall of 2015 and were designed to provide more equity and access to the type of population that Long Beach City College serves. These changes hopefully will increase the success rate for this population and all of the students we serve.

In addition, the Department has revamped its offerings in order to better serve students. One example is the increase in the offerings of Spanish 9 and Spanish 10 (Spanish for Spanish Speakers) courses. Spanish 25 is offered every semester, while French 25 are being offered again on alternating semesters in order to encourage students to complete AA and Certificates of Competency. The Department is seeking a firm commitment from the College to maintain the Level 3, Level 4, and especially Level 25 courses open with lower enrollment so that students in our department are able to attain their educational objectives in a faster manner here at Long Beach City College.

Internal Conditions (see Help for list):
Currently, students often disregard prerequisites specified in the College Catalog, class schedule, and course outline. Many students enroll in a level 1 class instead of a more appropriate, advanced level. Students with several semesters of previous language classes either at the high school or college insist on enrolling in a beginning class, thereby seriously impacting retention, completion and success rates, class environment, discipline and collegiality. Since students are not challenged, they become bored, do not participate in class, do not complete the course requirements, and behave in a disruptive manner, which results in a negative impact on the learning environment of the class. By the end of the semester, many of these students, drop the class or receive a failing grade. It should be pointed out that this is especially a problem in our Spanish 1 courses, since a number of these students are considered Heritage Speakers of Spanish and know too much Spanish to be in a Spanish 1 course. In order to alleviate this problem, we have increased our offerings of Spanish 9 and 10 and reduced the number of Spanish 1 sections. We also will offer special courses designed especially for them, such as Italian and French for the Spanish speaker.

External Conditions (see Help for list):
We regularly inform students about the transfer services available at LBCC, such as transfer fairs, transfer counseling, and the Transfer Agreement
Guarantee (TAG) for Honors students. Additionally, we invite counselors to the classroom to speak about transfer possibilities in order to encourage students to continue with their foreign language studies beyond LBCC. Through the LBCC Foundation, students can also receive scholarships to study languages, either at LBCC or through our Study Abroad Program. We also inform students of other external scholarship and internship opportunities. It should be pointed out that the College does not invest enough in helping our students outside of the classroom since there is very limited tutoring available for French, German, and none for Chinese, Italian, Japanese and Vietnamese. We will continue coordinating with the Success Centers so that more tutoring becomes available for our students in the future.

**External Condition- Industry & Labor Market Trends:**
As mentioned before, the department has seen a decrease in enrollment. This mirrors the decrease experienced in the rest of the College. This we feel is due to the fact that the economy is coming back, unemployment is less and, due to these two facts, many students are returning to work instead of retraining at a community college.

**Faculty & Staff :**
Faculty: 8 full-time professors and an average of 30 part-time instructors per semester.
Support Staff: One 40% Administrative Assistant for the Department of Foreign Languages (DFL) office; one 100% Instructional Associate (10 months) for the DFL laboratory located in M103 and one 55% Instructional Assistant (10 months) for the DFL lab.

**Names & Titles of Dept Planning Participants:**
Dr. Marie-Laure Hinton, Prof. Rigo Ibarra (current Department Head), Prof. Charlotte Jackson, Prof. Francisca Mejía-López, Dr. Cynthia Quintero, Dr. Elsa Saucedo, Prof. Yukiko Tsuboi, and Prof. Ingrid Wollank.

**2011-2012 Accomplishments :**
--The department hired a full-time professor of Spanish.
--The department finished the first cycle of assessment at the course and program level.
- The department began coordination and dialogue with the Learning Centers in order to provide more outside help to our students through tutoring and workshops.

**2012-2013 Accomplishments:**
--The department Closed the loop for course and program SLO assessment in most of its course offerings, and achieved a 100% proficiency according to ACCJC standards. Furthermore, we started the second cycle of assessment.
--The Spanish program has finally established a Spanish Club under the leadership of Dr. Cynthia Quintero. In addition, The French and German Programs, under the leadership of Dr. Marie-Laure Hinton and Professor Ingrid Wollank, continued their cultural activities with much success.
--Three German students received scholarships through the Roland Hoppe Foundation to spend four to eight weeks in Berlin during the Summer 2013 improving their language skills.
--Due to previous modifications to our class offerings, there was a continual increase in the number of certificate and associate degrees earned.

**2013-2014 Accomplishments:**
--The department hired a full-time professor of Spanish in Spring 2014, Professor Francisca Mejia-Lopez, and a full-time professor of Japanese in Fall 2014, Professor Yukiko Tsuboi.
--Again, there was a number of students that received scholarships through the Roland Hoppe Foundation to spend four to eight weeks in Berlin during the Summer perfecting their language skills
--The department successfully continues with the second cycle of assessment at the course and program level.

**Projects/ Strategies and Resources Needed**

**Project/ Strategy: Increase persistence rate from one level to the next appropriate level in all foreign languages.**
The Department will continue to coordinate with the Success Centers to improve and increase effective tutoring. The Department plans to continue their offerings of adequate amount of elementary courses for native Spanish speakers. In addition, the Department will continue to offer French, German, and Spanish Club activities, and will create an Italian Club in the near future.

**EMP GOAL supported (hold CTRL to select multiple)*:**
COMMUNITY - A. Internal Community of Students, Faculty and Staff
EQUITY - A. Student Success
EQUITY - B. Equitable Student Access
STUDENT SUCCESS - A. Student Preparedness
STUDENT SUCCESS - B. Student Goal Attainment
STUDENT SUCCESS - C. Quality of Academic Programs and Services

**Project/ Strategy Status:**
In Progress
Rationale:

Many Spanish speakers enroll in Spanish 1 because of the lack of placement strategies. If students enroll in their appropriate level, they will likely continue with the sequence of the foreign language. Having foreign language clubs will motivate students to continue their foreign language education.

Responsible Parties: Department, Dean and Success Centers.

Campus supported by this goal/project/strategy: Both

Specify if project/strategy is for dept or program: Department

Name of program or area of concentration: All languages, but specifically Spanish.

If Other select above, please specify: We also would like to modernize our Language Laboratory by exchanging our current projector since it continues to malfunction and makes teaching lessons in the Language Laboratory nearly impossible.

1. Related Resources Needed

Resources Needed name: Hire one full-time Spanish instructor.

Resources Needed Description: One full-time Spanish instructor.

Resource Requested Category: Faculty Replacement Positions

Estimated Cost: 110000

Additional Comments: The most senior member of the department retired in August, 2012. The department needs this position to meet the needs of our students and to participate in the college structure.

School/ VP Decision re Resource Needed: Funded

2. Related Resources Needed

Resources Needed name: Hire a new Full-Time Japanese Instructor.

Resources Needed Description: New Full-Time Faculty for the Foreign Language Department that specializes in the teaching of the Japanese Language.

Resource Requested Category: New Positions (Faculty, Classified, Management)

If requesting faculty, specify number: 1

List Faculty requests by priority & discipline: 1. Japanese Instructor.

Estimated Cost: 89000

Additional Comments: This position will allow the Foreign Language Department to fully develop the Japanese Program and increase significantly the number of AA degrees and certificates of achievement. The Japanese program is very robust, but it needs badly the leadership of an expert in the field.
### 3. Related Resources Needed

**Resources Needed name:** Update the Foreign Language Computer Lab: Replace 37 computer stations.

**Resources Needed Description:** 35 computer stations for the students that attend the lab, and 2 computer for the main desk.

**Resource Requested Category:** Upgrade and/or replacement of equipment

**List Faculty requests by priority & discipline:** n/a

**Estimated Cost:** 40700

**Additional Comments:** All foreign language students taking level 1 and 2 of all languages that we offer (7 languages) must attend the Foreign Language Lab with their instructor for a mandatory 1 hour a week. This a requirement for these courses to be transferable. The last time the computers were replaced was during the summer 2005.

**School/ VP Decision re Resource Needed:** Funded

### 4. Related Resources Needed

**Resources Needed name:** Update the Full-Time Faculty office computers (6).

**Resources Needed Description:** Replace and update computers in the Full-Time Faculty offices.

**Resource Requested Category:** Upgrade and/or replacement of equipment

**Estimated Cost:** 6600

**Additional Comments:** The computer that the Full-Time Faculty are using at the moment are obsolete.

**School/ VP Decision re Resource Needed:** Dept still requests funding

### 5. Related Resources Needed

**Resources Needed name:** New copy machine for the Department of Foreign Language.

**Resources Needed Description:** We want to replace our current copy machine, that continually breaks down.

**Resource Requested Category:** Upgrade and/or replacement of equipment

**Estimated Cost:** 10000

**Additional Comments:** In order to support the different programs offered in the Foreign Language Department, along with faculty and staff involved in these programs accessible duplication equipment is necessary. Especially to support faculty that teaches the evening courses, and office and language laboratory staff.

**School/ VP Decision re Resource Needed:** NEW